

# REPORT

ON THE

## HEALTH CONDITIONS AND SERVICES

IN THE



## BOROUGH OF CREWE

DURING 1950

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.,  
Medical Officer of Health  
Divisional Medical Officer



*With the Compliments  
of the  
Divisional Medical Officer*

*Medical Officer's Office,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Crewe.*



## **BOROUGH OF CREWE.**

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### **HEALTH COMMITTEE**

#### **Chairman :**

Alderman J. SMITH, O.B.E., J.P.

#### **Members :**

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor A. BLOSS)

Alderman W. R. Foulkes, J.P.

„ W. C. White, J.P.

„ Mrs. F. E. White, J.P.

Councillor E. W. Allcock

„ A. J. S. Hall

„ R. Hall

„ J. S. Hobson

„ S. Orwell

„ A. Klempt

„ R. Peach

„ R. Perry

„ Mrs. E. N. Pomfret

## CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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### CREWE DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman J. Smith, O.B.E., J.P. .... Chairman

Alderman Mrs. F. E. White, J.P. .... Deputy Chairman

#### Representing Crewe Town Council:—

Ald. W. R. Foulkes, J.P.      Coun. Mrs. E. N. Pomfret

Coun. E. W. Allcock                      „ H. H. Griffiths

„ A. E. Booth                      „ A. Broomhall

„ J. S. Hobson                      „ T. Talbot, J.P.

„ A. Klempt                      „ J. Perry

#### Representing County Health Committee:—

Coun. G. Astbury, J.P.      Coun. T. Consterdine

„ W. N. Leak                      „ T. G. Holman

„ H. Farrall                      Ald. Mrs. F. E. Wood

#### Representing Local Professional and Other Bodies:—

F. J. Glover, Esq.      Dr. Miles Parkes

E. H. Hunstone, Esq.      S. L. Thomson, Esq.

Dr. E. M. Liddle      V. M. White, Esq., B.D.S.

Mrs. M. McCutcheon      Ald. W. C. White, J.P.

## BOROUGH OF CREWE

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### Medical Officer's Office

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E., Medical Officer of Health (part time).

R. W. LEACH, Chief Clerk (part time).

### Sanitary Inspector's Office

J. GASKELL (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), Chief Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts (whole time).

R. E. PLATT (1, 2, 5), Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

C. BENNETT (1, 2, 3), Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

D. W. COOKE (1, 2, 4), Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

W. HAZELDINE (1), Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

J. H. MORRIS (1, 2, 3), Sanitary Inspector (whole time). (Commenced 27-9-50).

E. WHEELER (1), Sanitary Inspectors' Assistant (whole time). (Resigned 30-6-50).

C. MATHESON, Pupil Sanitary Inspector. (Commenced 18-12-50).

1. *Sanitary Inspector's Certificate (Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, or Royal Sanitary Institute).*
2. *Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.*
3. *Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works of the Royal Sanitary Institute.*
4. *Smoke Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.*
5. *Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.*

### Clerical Staff, Chief Sanitary Inspector's Office.

T. C. SIMPSON (Chief Clerk).

R. S. BAKER.

G. HART.

J. M. COOPER (Commenced 13-2-50).

## **CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

J. D. Ingram, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E., Divisional Medical Officer (part time).

Christina R. Laing, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant County Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer (whole time).

J. D. Allan, M.D., F.R.C.P., Paediatrician.

E. M. Innes, F.R.C.S., D.L.O., Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon

R. W. Leach, Chief Clerk (part time).

Miss E. Shepley and Miss B. Barnes, Clerks (whole time).

### **Health Visitors**

E. Wilson, South District

E. Broom, North Central District

J. S. Reid, West and Coppenhall Districts

R. Walch, Central District

L. M. D. Flowers, East District.

### **District Nurses**

Miss C. Moss, 5, Tynedale Avenue (Tel. No. 3947)

Mrs. E. A. Heap, 225, Wheelman Road (Tel. No. 3163)

Mrs. O. M. Dobson (part time)

### **District Midwives**

Nurse E. A. Bimson, 20, Gatefield St., (Tel. No. 2239).

„ S. A. Christmas, 195, Gainsborough Rd. (Tel. No. 3345).

„ D. Broad, 234, Hungerford Rd. (Tel. No. 2495).

„ M. Beatty, 195, Gainsborough Rd. (Tel. No. 3345).

„ K. Beech, 23, Minshull New Road (Tel. No. 2826)

„ E. M. J. Weston, 27, Edleston Rd. (Tel. No. 3110).

„ E. G. Williams, 282, Broad St. (Tel. No. 2666).

„ M. Wilson, 152, Holland St. (Tel. No. 2875).

### **Authorised Officer**

Mr. R. E. Broach, 1, Gatefield Street (Tel. No. 2478)

### **Welfare Officer**

Miss Pickering, 1, Gatefield Street (Tel. No. 3798)



**To the Chairman and the Members of the Health Committee  
and the Divisional Health Committee of the Crewe Town  
Council and the Cheshire County Council respectively.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report on the health conditions which prevailed in the Borough of Crewe during the year ending December 31st, 1950.

The health services are shared between the Cheshire County Council and the Crewe Town Council and this report covers all sections of the work.

The initials in brackets which follow certain services show by which authority that service is administered.

Thus C.C.C. represents the Cheshire County Council.

R.H.B. represents the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

Services administered by the Crewe Town Council are those without initials or other reference.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to you—the Members of the two Health Committees—for the consideration and support you have always given to me, and in particular to the Chairman, whose help and advice has been invaluable.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. INGRAM,

Medical Officer of Health and  
Divisional Medical Officer.

## STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

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### Area :

4,414 acres.

### Population :

Census 1931, 46,061.

Estimated 1950, 53,290.

### Number of Houses :

Census 1931, 12,298.

Estimated 1950, 16,212.

### Rateable Value :

£273,952.

### Product of Penny Rate :

£1,098.

### Births :

Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .....	406	396	802
Illegitimate .....	20	21	41
Total	426	417	843
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Still Births :			
Legitimate .....	9	8	17
Illegitimate .....	1	1	2
Total ...	10	9	19

The birth rate was 16.2 per 1,000 of the population. This rate was made up of a live birth rate of 15.8 and a still birth rate of 0.45. The birth rate in England and Wales was 16.2 per 1,000 of the population (live birth rate 15.8, still birth rate 0.4).

The percentage of illegitimate births in all births increased from 4.8 per cent. in 1949 to 4.9 per cent. in 1950.

The birth rate shows a fall of 0.5 per 1,000 from the birth rate in 1949, but the rate is still well above the average rate before the Second World War.

### Deaths :

The number of deaths registered during the year, after corrections have been made for outward and inward transfers, was 647—male 321, female 326. The death rate was 12.1 per 1,000 of the population. In 1949 the death rate was 12.7.

The death rate for England and Wales was 11.6 per 1,000 of the population.

The Principal causes of death during the year were:—

Cause of Death	Number		Cause of Death	Number	
	M	F		M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	10	3	Influenza ... ..	3	4
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	2	2	Pneumonia ... ..	9	6
Meningo-coccal infections ...	1	—	Bronchitis ... ..	26	14
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	1	Other Respiratory Diseases...	1	1
Measles ... ..	—	1	Ulcer of Stomach, Duodenum	5	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases...	2	2	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	—	1
Malignant neoplasms ... ..	47	43	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	3	5
Diabetes ... ..	1	2	Congenital malformations ...	6	2
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	43	57	Motor vehicle accidents ...	2	—
Heart Disease ... ..	111	117	All other accidents ... ..	2	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	6	9	Suicide ... ..	3	3
			All other causes ... ..	38	43

The number of infants who died during the first year of life was 42—25 male and 17 female. Of these deaths 1 male was illegitimate.

The Infantile Mortality was 49.8 per 1,000 live births. The Infantile Mortality in England and Wales was 29.8.

Of the infant deaths 22 occurred within the first week, 25 before the end of the first month, 33 before the end of 3 months, 36 before 6 months, 40 before 9 months, reaching 42 by the end of the first year.

The causes of these infant deaths were:—Meningococcal infections 1, Influenza 1, Pneumonia 9, Bronchitis 1, Congenital Malformations 6, Birth Injuries 3, Asphyxia 2, Ill-defined diseases, Immaturity 19.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES**

### **HOME NURSING (C.C.C.)**

The County Council employs 2 State registered Queen's Nurses, assisted by 1 part time Assistant Nurse, to provide home nursing facilities in Crewe. During the year the number of cases attended by the nurses was 296, and the number of visits paid was 8,174. In 1949 the corresponding figures were 307 and 8,918.

### **HOME HELPS (C.C.C.)**

The Home Helps in Crewe are all part timers for there is not yet sufficient work to justify whole time appointments. During the year 26 cases were attended by Home Helps. Of these 8 were required during confinements and the remaining 18 were old people in need of assistance.

### **MIDWIVES (C.C.C.)**

The number of district midwives practising in the Borough is 11, of these 8 are employed by the County Council and 3 practice as independent midwives.

## LABORATORY WORK (R.H.B.)

During the year 17 throat swabs were examined at Mon-sall Hospital. Of these 6 gave cultures of haemolytic streptococci, of which 5 were Group A, 1 Group C, two gave cultures of Vincent's Angina, and 9 were negative.

1 sputum was examined for tubercle bacilli but proved to be negative.

1 blood smear was examined for gonococci with a negative result.

A specimen of pig's skin was sent for examination but the *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* was not isolated.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATION (C.C.C.)

During the year cards received from Medical Practitioners showed that 680 children were immunized against diphtheria. In addition 246 children received a boosting dose to improve their immunity.

14 children were also immunized against whooping cough.

The number of vaccinations reported to me during the year was 336.

An indication of the vaccinal state of children in Crewe can be gained from the following table, which shows the percentage of children vaccinated of those examined at various ages during the year :

Percentage vaccinated :

	5 yrs. old	9 yrs. old	14 yrs. old
Boys .....	48.6	49.6	49.8
Girls .....	43.5	38.9	36.5

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year 19 persons were medically examined. Of these 11 were new appointments to the Crewe Corporation's Staff; 5 were canteen helpers and 3 were of persons applying for a taxi driver's licence.

## MEDICAL COMFORTS AND APPLIANCES

The St. John Ambulance Brigade Comforts Depot has continued this year, as in previous years, to meet all demands.

The following table shows the number of items loaned out during the year:

Bed Rests	...	...	20	Bed Cradles	...	...	4
Rubber Sheets	...	...	14	Rubber Beds	...	...	4
Air Rings	...	...	25	Feeding Cups	...	...	3
Bed Pans	...	...	23	Wheel Chairs	...	...	3
Urine Bottles	...	...	8	Pair of Crutches	...	...	1
Bed Tables	...	...	3	Nelson Inhaler	...	...	1

## MORTUARY

During the year 50 bodies were taken to the Mortuary with a view to Post Mortem examination.

## MORAL WELFARE

The Crewe and District Committee for Preventive and Rescue Work deals with moral welfare in Crewe and the surrounding area. It also maintains the St. Hilda's Home, 71, West Street, Crewe.

I am indebted to the Secretary for the following information :

31 Girls and Babies were received into the Home:—

17 Girls were sent to Hospital or Maternity Home.

2 Girls were found work.

1 Girl was sent to a Training Home.

11 Girls were advised or helped in various ways.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE (C.C.C.)

The details of the work done by the Ambulance Service are shown as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
No. of journeys made	414	451	453	438	466	420	448	355	411	442	427	432	5157
No. of patients carried	432	473	466	457	485	434	455	365	422	469	450	483	5401
Emergencies and accidents	53	49	36	34	30	36	37	41	32	35	30	32	445
Journeys made for other Divisions .....	22	40	26	33	24	20	13	15	28	15	7	15	258
Journeys made by other Divisions .....	3	3	2	4	10	1	—	2	3	—	3	11	42
Journeys by taxi .....	2	6	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Miles covered .....	5710	5688	6295	5549	6225	6091	5704	4727	6320	5675	5602	5132	68718
Average miles per journey	13.8	12.6	13.9	12.6	13.3	14.5	12.7	13.3	15.3	12.8	13.1	11.8	13.3
No. of journeys made	1950—414	451	453	438	466	420	448	355	411	442	427	432	5157
1949—211	233	233	312	272	341	295	287	340	395	489	506	414	4095
1948—138	129	129	156	129	158	157	161	123	136	159	216	161	1823

The amount of petrol issued during the year was 4,924 gallons—equivalent to 13.9 miles per gallon.

## CONTRACEPTIVE ADVICE (C.C.C.)

Contraceptive advice was given to 31 women, who made 61 visits. No regular clinic is held for this purpose since advice is only given on medical grounds and women are only seen by appointment.

## INFANT WELFARE (C.C.C.)

At the time of the first visit made by the Health Visitor it was found that 60.3 per cent. of the babies were entirely breast fed, 4.7 per cent. were fed partly on the breast and partly on the bottle, while 34.9 per cent were fed entirely on artificial foods. These figures show a slight increase in breast feeding from the percentage found last year—59.3 per cent.

The percentage entirely breast fed at 3 months of age was 13.5 per cent. in 1950 and 15 per cent. in 1949. The number entirely breast fed at 6 months of age was 5.7 per cent. and 6.4 per cent. in 1949.

The percentage of babies found to be sleeping alone at the time of the first visit was 98.5 per cent.

The number of babies attending the Welfare Centres, the number of times they attended, and the number of consultations with the Welfare Centre Doctor are shown in the following table:—

	Babies	Attendances	Consultations
Ludford Street ... ..	351	2852	797
Stalbridge Road ...	307	3400	802



The number of children attending the Centres for the first time was 400.

Children under 5 years of age also attended the following Clinics :—

Dental Clinic ... ..	123 children made	145 visits
Paediatric Clinic ... ..	23 children made	68 visits
Ear, Nose & Throat Clinics	3 children made	4 visits

### **SUPPLY OF DRIED MILK (C.C.C.)**

Dried milk is issued from the Medical Officer's Office on Tuesday afternoons to those mothers attending the Welfare Centres for whose babies such milk has been prescribed by the Welfare Centre Doctor. The milk is supplied at cost price plus a 10 per cent. establishment charge.

The amounts supplied during 1949 and 1950 were :—

	Cow & Gate Half Cream	Cow & Gate Full Cream	Lactogen	Trufood
1949	182 lbs.	1032 lbs.	96 lbs.	36 lbs.
1950	119 lbs.	2644 lbs.	248 lbs.	138 lbs.

## Work of the Health Visitors.

	District S	District SC	District E	District NC	District W	Total
First visits under 1 year :						
New Cases this year	180	112	176	185	160	813
Old Cases from last year	22	—	—	10	8	40
Re-visits under 1 year	1059	427	389	422	405	2702
Re-visits 1 to 5 years	1991	399	948	1486	2412	7236
First Visits to Illegitimate Infants	3	—	—	6	—	9
Re-visits   "   "	7	—	—	89	2	98
First Visits to Ante-natal Cases	42	1	—	—	—	43
Re-visits to Ante-natal Cases	69	2	—	—	—	71
Visits to Tuberculosis Cases	266	47	111	375	197	996
Visits to Still Births	—	—	—	8	2	10
Other Visits	59	17	12	82	59	229
Lost Visits	3698 118	1005 54	1636 575	2663 660	3245 1064	12247 2471
	3816	1059	2211	3323	4309	14718

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Prevalence:

Scarlet Fever ... ..	61	Meningococcal Infection	1
Diphtheria ... ..	9	Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2
Erysipelas ... ..	3	Whooping Cough ... ..	236
Pneumonia, Lobar ...	20	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	36
Measles ... ..	121	Other forms of	
Acute Polio-myelitis .	1	Tuberculosis	7
Para-Typhoid Fever .	1	Food Poisoning ... ..	6

### Scarlet Fever:

There were 148 fewer cases of Scarlet Fever notified during 1950 than in 1949.

The monthly notifications were:—

Jan.	6	April	5	July	4	Oct.	7
Feb.	8	May	5	Aug.	3	Nov.	6
Mar.	4	June	2	Sept.	3	Dec.	8

### Diphtheria:

The number of cases notified as Diphtheria each month were:—

Jan.	—	April	1	July	—	Oct.	—
Feb.	—	May	1	Aug.	2	Nov.	3
Mar.	—	June	2	Sept.	—	Dec.	—

All the cases notified were considered to be other forms of throat infections.

During the year the number of children immunized for the first time was 566, of whom 513 were under school age.

The ages of the children protected against diphtheria for the first time during the year were:—

0—1 ...	133	4—5 ...	16	8—9 ...	5
1—2 ...	323	5—6 ...	26	9—10 ...	3
2—3 ...	21	6—7 ...	14	10—11 ...	2
3—4 ...	20	7—8 ...	2	11 & over	1

### Tuberculosis:

The following table shows the position in Crewe regarding the prevalence of tuberculosis. It will be noticed the numbers in each group, with the exception of one, are less at the end of the year than they were at the beginning.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
On register 1-1-50 ...	187	123	50	52	412
New notifications .....	17	17	1	5	40
Restored to register	1	1	1	—	3
Removed from register	20	14	4	8	46
On register 31-12-50	185	127	48	49	409

During the year 40 pulmonary cases received residential treatment in Sanatorium or Hospital as shown in the following table:—

Market Drayton Sanatorium .....	24
Wrenbury Hall (from Market Drayton) ...	5
Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport .....	5
Hefferston Grange Sanatorium .....	5
Hyde Tuberculosis Pavilion .....	1

One non-pulmonary case—a child—received treatment at the High Carley Children's Annex, Ulverston.

The numbers removed from the register for recovery or death were:—

	Recovered		Died	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	5	5	11	4
Non-Pulmonary	4	6	—	2

### MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

A mass radiography survey was carried out in Crewe in November, 1949, and I am indebted to Dr. J. S. B. Mackay for the following report:—

“The x-ray apparatus was installed in the following premises:—Royal Ordnance Factory, Radway Green, British Railways Locomotive Works, Rolls Royce Ltd., and Kelvinator Ltd.; this arrangement enabled the employees of these firms to be examined at their place of

work and so reduce the loss of working time. While the unit was at the Locomotive Works, school children and the general public were, by the kind permission of Mr. Forsyth, the Works Superintendent, allowed to be examined there, and Kelvinator Ltd., also permitted workers from adjoining firms to attend at their premises.

The unit, in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health, organised a publicity campaign including the showing of the mass radiography film at local cinemas, articles and photographs in the local press and exhibition of posters; addresses were given by the Organising Secretary in factory canteens, and to Works' Councils, departmental representatives, Trades Council, &c. An Appointments Bureau was opened at the Health Department where members of the public could make arrangements to be x-rayed. All firms in the district employing 50 or more persons were circularised with a view to their taking part in the survey, and, with only three exceptions, all co-operated; when necessary, workers were transported to and from the x-ray centre.

In all, some 12,500 persons were x-rayed during the survey as will be seen from the following statement:—

	Males	Females	Total
Persons employed ... ..	8,459	2,331	10,790
School children (14 years and over) ... ..	353	322	675
General public ... ..	424	611	1,035
Total ...	9,236	3,264	12,500

Classified according to age the figures were:—

Age group	Males	Females	Total
Under 15 years ...	237	206	443
15-24 years ... ..	1,799	1,460	3,259
25-34 years ... ..	2,607	715	3,322
35-44 years ... ..	2,068	498	2,566
45-59 years ... ..	2,214	347	2,561
60 years and over ...	311	38	349
Total ...	<u>9,236</u>	<u>3,264</u>	<u>12,500</u>

The table below, which excludes the 1,035 members of the public and the 675 school children who were examined, compares (a) the number of persons at the various establishments who were available for mass radiography with (b) the number who actually attended at the unit:—

	Males	Females	Total
(a) Total number of persons available for mass radiography ... ..	13,894	3,384	17,278
(b) Number of above persons who were x-rayed	8,459	2,331	10,790
(c) Percentage of total workers available ... ..	60.8%	68.8%	62.4%

Thus, of the total workers available for examination, the proportion actually x-rayed were: Males 60.8 per cent., females 68.8 per cent., combined 62.4 per cent. This response is slightly above the average.

Following the initial miniature x-ray, 536 persons were recalled for large film and 161 for clinical examination or interview by the Medical Director; of these 112 were referred to the Chest Clinic and 26 to their own doctor.

Of the 12,500 persons examined, 13 failed to attend for repeat miniature or large film and, consequently, could not be diagnosed, and 11 persons with tuberculosis conditions were already known to be on the tuberculosis register.

This leaves a net number of 12,476 examinees to be dealt with, of whom 11,914 or 95.5 per cent. were normal; the remainder consisted of persons discovered with tuberculosis or other conditions of the chest.

The findings in respect of the examinees with evidence of tuberculosis are as follows:—

Notifiable Respiratory Tuberculosis:

Positive sputum ... ..	11
Negative or absent sputum ...	14
Inactive ... ..	3
	<hr/>
Total	28
Per 1,000 examined	2.2
	<hr/>

Non-significant Respiratory Tuberculosis:

Inactive ... ..	47
Healed ... ..	215
	<hr/>
Total	262
Per 1,000 examined	21.0
	<hr/>

The 28 newly discovered cases of respiratory tuberculosis (11 with positive sputum) were equal to a rate of 2.2 per 1,000 persons examined; in comparison, the rate for surveys carried out by our units in other districts in 1946-48 was 2.9 per 1,000. Sixteen of these cases received sanatorium treatment; the remainder were entered in the tuberculosis register and placed under the supervision of the Chest Physician.

For non-significant tuberculosis the rate was 21.0 per 1,000 examinees compared with a rate of 26.7 per 1,000 for the 1946-48 surveys. As will have been noted the majority of these were classified as healed and no further action was considered necessary as they are neither a personal nor a public problem; the inactive group, with three exceptions who refused further action, were referred to the chest clinic for an appropriate period of observation.

It is only to be expected that during the routine examinations of large numbers of people other abnormal chest conditions will be discovered. In this survey non-tuberculous abnormalities were found in 272 instances but no action was considered necessary in the majority of these. The cases referred to their own doctor or to the Chest Physician for investigation or treatment are given below:—

Bronchitis 6, broncho-pneumonia 1, bronchiectasis 17, consolidation of unknown cause 2, pneumoconiosis 4, pleural thickening 1, intrathoracic new growth 3, cardio-vascular lesions 7, miscellaneous 3; total 44.

School children aged 14 years and over were included in the survey and a total of 675 (boys 353, girls 322) attended the unit. Of these 10 were discovered with abnormalities as follows: Bony thorax 3, bronchitis 1, bronchiectasis 1, cardio-vascular lesions 2, inactive respiratory tuberculosis 3; in only two cases was any action necessary and these were referred to their own doctor.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Medical Officer of Health and the members of his department for the great help rendered to the unit, particularly in regard



to the Appointments Bureau and the arrangements for the examination of school children. Appreciation is here recorded of the willing co-operation of the Superintendent of the Locomotive Works, the Superintendent of the Royal Ordnance Factory, Rolls Royce Ltd., and Kelvinator Ltd."

### Water Supply:

The water supply to Crewe is taken from deep wells situated at Eaton and at Whitmore under the jurisdiction of the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board, to whose Engineer and Manager, Mr. N. A. F. Rowntree, I am indebted for the following information:—

- " 1. The Crewe Area Distribution system has now become so involved that it is extremely difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy the amount of water supplied to the Borough from the various sources.

2. From the Board's Quarterly Statements of Metered and Domestic Consumption for the year ending 31st December, 1950, the average gallons per head per day were as follows:—

Domestic etc.,	unmetered	21.7
Trade	... .. metered	9.6
Farm	... .. metered	1.9
Total		33.2 gallons per — head per day

3. The estimated population for the Borough of Crewe of 51,000 would thus give a total consumption of 580,818,000 gallons, which would appear to be consistent with the consumption recorded for previous years, and I trust that you can accept this estimation for your Annual Health Report."

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Crewe.  
6th July, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my third annual report on the sanitary circumstances and sanitary inspection of the Borough.

During the year under review the demands made upon the services of the Department have been particularly onerous.

The difficulties concerning the repair and reconditioning of house property have been one of the major problems. These difficulties have been due principally to shortage of labour and materials and to the high cost of building repairs. The virtual standstill in the replacement of unfit properties is probably one of the greatest tragedies of our times and if a slum clearance could be commenced, if only on a limited scale, local authorities would at least feel that some progress was being made to deal with this great social evil. I regret to report that no property owners took advantage of the grants available under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, for the improvement of housing accommodation. A number of applications were received but were not considered suitable cases. There does, however, appear to be some general misunderstanding concerning the availability of grants under the Act and it should be stressed that the grants are not available for ordinary repairs and recondition-

ing of house property. Such grants are only available towards the expense of "improvement" (such as the installation of hot and cold water, bath, etc.) and even then are only given where the property has been made fit in every respect and made to comply with all the official requirements.

During the year a considerable amount of work was carried out on the inspection and control of food and food premises.

One of the most important services in this regard is meat inspection. It safeguards the consumer in so far that it ensures that no diseased meat leaves the slaughterhouse and at the same time provides that the greatest amount of sound meat is saved. The maintenance of the high standard of meat inspection has necessitated many hours of overtime duty by sanitary inspectors.

All premises where food is prepared or handled have been frequently visited during the year. The work is of primary importance in ensuring that the food reaches the public with the highest standard of cleanliness and purity. The threat of food poisoning is now greater in our minds today than in the pre-war days when the food consumed was largely prepared at home as opposed to the rapid growth in communal feeding in canteens, cafes, etc., which has now become an accepted practice of the present day. This communal method of feeding whilst having certain advantages increases the possibility of outbreaks of food poisoning unless proper control is maintained. Frequent inspection of such places is therefore of vital importance.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, to members of the staff and also to express appreciation to other chief officers and their staffs for their co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. GASKELL,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Nature of Inspections made	Number	No. of Notices Served		Result of Notices Served		Prosecutions	
		Informal	Statutory	Notices Completed with	Remaining in Hand	Instituted	Pending
1 Dwelling Houses (PH Act)	338	77	14	74	17	...	...
2 Dwelling Houses (Housing Act) ...	303	206	80	116	170	...	...
3 Back-to-back Houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Verminous Houses ...	100	1	...	1	...	...	...
6 Ashpails, ...	1344	620	87	676	31	...	...
7 Yards and Passages ...	42	1	...	1	...	...	...
8 House Drains ...	1619	81	95	176	...	...	...
9 Ditches and Watercourses	103	9	...	9	...	...	...
10 Offensive accumulations ...	16	8	...	8	...	...	...
11 Keeping of Animals ...	30	2	...	1	1	...	...
12 Offensive Trades ...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 Piggeries ...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 (a) Slaughterhouses ...	715	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other places where food is prepared or sold ...	2097	1	...	1	...	...	...
15 Bakehouses ...	226	40	...	40	...	...	...
16 Dairies and Milkshops ...	116	...	...	...	...	...	...
17 (a) Factories (Mechanical Power) ...	391	2	...	2	...	...	...
(b) Factories (No Mechanical Power)	19	1	...	1	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces ...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses	47	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Shops under Shops Act ...	293	26	...	26	...	1	...
20 Smoke Observations ...	38	3	...	3	...	...	...
21 Infectious Diseases (Enquiries and Re-visits)	228	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Houses re overcrowding ...	69	...	...	...	...	...	...
23 Milk Samples—Bacteriological Exam. ...	82	...	...	...	...	...	...
24 Water samples ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 Food & Drugs Act (including samples) ...	198	...	...	...	...	1	...
26 Applicants for Corporation houses ...	747	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 Rodent Control ...	103	...	...	...	...	...	...
28 Miscellaneous ...	978	...	...	...	...	...	...
29 Re-inspections ...	1761	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	12147	1078	276	1135	219	2	...

## Closet Accommodation

The number of closets of each type in the Borough at the end of the year was:—

Water Closets ... ..	16,109
Waste Water Closets ... ..	914
Pail Closets ... ..	207
Privy Middens ... ..	5

During the year 5 sets of w.c. fittings were issued, three for conversion of waste water closets, and 2 for the conversion of privy pails to water closets.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

Twelve vehicles (including 2 spare vehicles) are employed on the collection of household and trade refuse, and 1 for the collection of nightsoil in addition to 2 vehicles in connection with refuse disposal.

	Tons
Household refuse collected ... ..	12,077
Trade refuse collected ... ..	1,084
	<hr/>
Total refuse collected by the Department during the year ... ..	13,161
	<hr/>

1,994 tons of shop and factory refuse were also brought to the Refuse Disposal Works for disposal, making a total of 15,155 tons of refuse dealt with during the year. 72.9% of the total passed through the works, while the remainder was disposed of by controlled tipping.

The estimated amount of nightsoil collected during the year was 156 tons.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs

The following table shows the number of premises dealt with during 1950:

	Number found to be Infested		Number of Premises Disinfested
	Premises	Rooms	
Council Houses .....	7	18	7
Other Houses .....	47	117	47
Cases confirmed after complaint of infestation .....	17	—	—
Cases found by Sanitary Inspectors .....	37	—	—
Houses disinfested by Corporation .....	—	—	54
Houses disinfested by Contractors .....	—	—	—

The work of disinfection was carried out by the use of D.D.T. and patent fumigant solutions.

In addition to the premises listed above, 36 houses were treated for infestation of ants and 22 houses for beetles.

### Disinfectant

During the year 67 bottles of disinfecting fluid, amounting to 4 gallons were supplied free of charge, for use at premises where cases of infectious diseases had occurred.

### Library Books

Following cases infectious disease, 19 library books belonging to the Public Library and 9 books from private libraries were withdrawn from circulation and disinfected before being returned.

## Water Supply

Four samples of water were taken during the year. One sample was slightly unsatisfactory but a further sample proved satisfactory.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are two common lodging houses in the Borough. At the beginning of the year there was a third common lodging house in use, 177, Market Street, with accommodation for 25 males, but these premises were closed in April, 1950.

The table below shows the number of beds available at each house:

Situation	No. of Beds	Accommodation available for
1. 2 & 4, Cross Street ...	8	Male and Female
2. 9, Oak Street .....	22	Male
Total number of beds ...	30	

The number of persons who used the lodging houses during the year is given below, with comparative figures for the two preceding years:

	Adults		Children	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1950 .....	9,485	1,659	—	—
1949 .....	10,402	1,414	—	—
1948 .....	9,187	1,830	—	—

## Offensive Trades

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough:

Rag and Bone Dealers ...	3
Gut Scraper .....	1

There is also 1 Knacker's Yard in the Borough.

**Pigkeepers**

There are 78 persons keeping pigs on premises in the Borough.

**Rag Flock**

Rag flock is not manufactured on any premises in the Borough.

**HOUSING STATISTICS****Number of New Houses Erected During the Year :**

(a) By the Local Authority .....	398
(b) By other bodies or persons .....	6

**1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year :**

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Act) .....	283
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	641
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	206
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	303
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation .....	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	283

**2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .....	109
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### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	80
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners .....	37
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	10
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	14
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners .....	7
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	1
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	—
(3)	Number of undertakings to carry out works in lieu of demolition accepted by the Council .....	—

#### 4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :

(a) (1) Number of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	18
(2) Number of families therein .....	25
(3) Number of persons therein .....	165
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	9
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	71
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	—

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### MILK

##### Distributors of Milk :

Registered distributors of loose milk .....	49
Registered distributors of sealed bottled milk .....	71
Registered dairies .....	11

##### Designated Milk :

##### Tuberculin Tested Milk

Dealer's Licences .....	13
Dealer's Supplementary Licences .....	4

##### Pasteurised Milk

Establishments at which milk is pasteurised :

Holder Process .....	2
H.T.S.T. Process .....	1
Dealer's Licences .....	5
Dealer's Supplementary Licences .....	5

**Sterilised Milk**

Dealer's Licences ..... 54

**Milk Sampling**

During the year, 83 samples of designated milks were taken for bacteriological examination and the following table provides details of the results :

No. of samples	Description of milk	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphates Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
4	Tuberculin Tested	4	—	—	—
8	Pasteurised	8	—	8	—
71	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	71	—	70	1
83	Totals .....	83	1 —	78	1

The following table shows the average fat and solids-not-fat contents of the milk samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :

**Summary of Chemical Analyses of Milk Samples :**

Period	No. of samples examined	Averages	
		Milk fat %	Solids-not-fat %
Quarter ended 31st March, 1950 .....	18	3.30	8.76
Quarter ended 30th June, 1950 .....	27	3.36	8.76
Quarter ended 30th September, 1950 .....	11	3.62	8.75
Quarter ended 31st December, 1950 .....	14	3.68	8.80
Year 1950 .....	70	3.45	8.76

## Ice Cream

Ice cream was manufactured at three premises in the Borough in 1950 while seventy-six premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

Three samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination, two of which were placed in provisional grade 1 and one in provisional grade 3.

Two samples of ice cream were taken under the Food and Drugs Act for chemical analysis and the average fat content per sample was 10.5%.

## Meat and Other Foods

Number of inspections of slaughterhouses during the year .....	715
Number of inspections of premises where food is stored .....	2097
Number of inspections of bakehouses .....	226

The following tables show the types of animals slaughtered and inspected with particulars of the diseases found necessitating complete or partial condemnation:

### Number of Animals Slaughtered during the past five years

Year	Cattle ex Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
1950 .....	1732	2525	3448	12531	539	20775
1949 .....	1305	2163	2475	11535	349	17827
1948 .....	1331	2084	3095	11197	200	17907
1947 .....	1682	1785	3771	10712	60	18010
1946 .....	1454	2358	3695	14775	154	22436

# MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSE

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTALS
Number killed ...	1732	2525	3448	12531	539	20775
Number inspected ...	1732	2525	3448	12531	539	20775
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	33	23	22	15	96
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	561	875	11	492	50	1989
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	32.6%	35.9%	0.98%	4.1%	12.1%	10.04%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	11	84	10	...	8	113
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	344	1043	...	...	38	1425
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	20.5%	44.6%	0.29%	...	8.5%	7.4%

## WEIGHT, IN LBS., OF MEAT, CONDEMNED

## DISEASE

DISEASE	Beef	Veal	Mut'n	Pork	Bacon and Ham	Rab'ts and Po'try	Sausage	Fats and Cheese	Bread and Flour	Fruit Veg.	Fish	Butter and Ma'e	Tinn'd Goods	Misc.	Totals
Tuberculosis	91486	1078	...	2933	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95497
Parasites and Cysts	17694	32	853	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18604
Abscesses	...	10	144	171	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1687
Angioma	2292	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2292
Dropsy	3597	48	141	110	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3896
Emaciation	933	...	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	980
Traumatism	3554	30	144	551	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4279
Inflammation	399	12	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	435
Moribund	...	162	381	201	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	744
Immaturity	...	202	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
Actinomycosis	133	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Pericarditis	11	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Peritonitis	955	89	117	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1212
Pleurisy	100	12	...	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Pneumonia	20	...	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Septicaemia	4888	196	39	370	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5493
Pyæmia	800	...	116	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	916
Sapraemia	469	...	76	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	545
Mammitis	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Tumour	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Fever	4219	121	...	261	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4601
Cysticercus Bovis	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Jaundice	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Erysipelas	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Decomposition	4195	...	9	784	221	144	847	124	77	200	1179	59	5294	733	13866
Miscellaneous	416	...	64	138	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	618
TOTAL WEIGHTS	137633	2023	2175	5957	221	144	847	124	77	200	1179	59	5294	733	15666

TOTAL WEIGHT—156,666 lbs.

## Tuberculosis in Calves

During the year notification was made to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of four calves found to be affected with Tuberculosis on inspection at the slaughterhouse. The Divisional Inspector reported that in the case of two of the calves, the dams had been traced and found to be suffering from Tuberculosis and slaughtered. In the other two cases, both calves had been purchased at the Cattle Market and could not be traced to the original farms.

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Number of slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1949 .....	42
Applications for licences granted during 1949 .....	1
Number of slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1950 .....	43

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year, 80 formal samples and 118 informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis.

Nature of Sample	No. of Samples		No. of Samples adulterated or not genuine
	Informal	Formal	
Milk .....	3	67	4
Meat & Meat Products .....	27	2	5
Fish & Fish Products .....	7	—	—
General Groceries .....	55	—	2
Fruit, Fresh & Preserved ..	2	—	—
Confectionery & Sweets ...	9	—	1
Ice Cream .....	2	—	—
Cordials .....	1	—	—
Wines, Spirits & Beers ....	—	11	—
Medicines, etc .....	12	—	—
	118	80	
	198		12

The table below shows details of the samples found not to be genuine and of the relative action taken :

Sample number	Article	Adulteration or other irregularity	Action taken
5. Informal	Sausage	Deficient of 40% of its meat	Formal sample taken see sample No. 17
17. Formal	Beef Sausage	Deficient of 34% of its meat	Proceedings instituted. Vendor fined £5 and costs
19. Formal	Milk	Deficient of 8% of its fat	Vendor cautioned. Further sample proved genuine
46. Informal	Preserved Pineapple	600 parts/ million excess Sulphur Dioxid	No further supplies offered for sale
88. Formal	Milk	Deficient of 5% of its fat	Vendor cautioned
97. Formal	Milk	Deficient of 15% of its fat	See sample No. 102
102. Formal	Milk	Deficient of 3% of its fat	"Appeal to cow" following sample No. 97. Vendor cautioned
106. Informal	Mixed Pickles	Certain contents not declared on label	Stock withdrawn
139. Informal	Non-brewed Condiment	Deficient of 12% of its acetic acid	Stock withdrawn
152. Informal	Sausage	Deficient of 16% of its meat	Formal sample taken See Sample No. 156
156. Formal	Beef Sausage	Deficient of 12% of its meat	Vendor cautioned
182. Informal	Pork Sausage	Deficient of 7% of its meat	Vendor cautioned



## RODENT CONTROL

The Corporation employ two full-time rat-catchers and the extermination methods employed are poisoning, gassing and trapping. During 1950, complaints of 157 rat infestations and 115 mice infestations were received.

The following table summarises the treatments carried out during the year :

Type of Property	No. of Properties in which infestation was recorded	Type of Infestation			Treatments carried out	
		Rats		Mice only	Rats	Mice
		Major	Minor			
Local Authority Property .....	6	3	2	1	11	1
Dwelling Houses .....	157	—	76	81	93	82
Business Premises .....	25	—	6	19	9	24
Agricultural Property ...	2	—	1	1	2	1
Totals .....	190	3	85	102	115	108

37

NOTE.—A treatment means a complete treatment for the destruction of rats or mice and includes not only the initial treatment but, when necessary, post-baiting and follow-up treatment.

Following treatments carried out, 113 rats were picked up, while the estimated kill was 2,159 rats and 3,420 mice. The rat-catchers paid 2,559 visits to premises during the year.

In addition to the above, two maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out; 545 man-holes were baited and 181 takes of poison bait were recorded, showing an estimated kill of 743 rats.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes or provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	Number on Register	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	87	19	1	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	174	391	2	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	4	8	...	...
TOTAL ... ..	265	418	3	...

#### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	...	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	1	...	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	...	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ... ..	3	3	...	3

3. OUTWORKERS. Lists required by Section 110 were received relating to 8 outworkers, all engaged in making wearing apparel.







